

**EVALUATION AND REPORT OF PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING IDENTIFIED
GOALS AND PRIORITIES
AND USE OF TITLE I FUNDS FOR INNOVATION AND EXPANSION ACTIVITIES**

The DSU utilizes several strategies for evaluating and reporting the achievement of its goals and priorities and outcomes of I & E activities.

Primarily, the DSU has adopted the evaluation standards found in 34 CFR 361.82 and the performance indicators found in 34 CFR 361.84. These were chosen for our goals and priorities since they remain constant over time, and the DSU can then track its program performance from one year to the next using consistent goals that do not change.

In addition, the DSU seeks program evaluation and monitoring assistance from the Wisconsin Rehabilitation Council. The WRC regularly solicits input on VR services and priorities through public comment and hearings, from WRC members and from expert panels of consumers and providers invited to WRC meetings. The WRC Evaluation Committee studies the performance of the DSU in serving specific groups and disabilities and reviews consumer satisfaction with VR services.

The WRC/DSU partnership is intended to improve the performance of the DSU with respect to the evaluation standards and performance indicators established pursuant to section 106 of the Act. The WRC issues an annual report reviewing the activities and performance of the DSU as well as offering WRC advice on goals and priorities. The DSU and WRC will jointly submit the report to RSA.

Priority #1: Employment Outcomes

Strategies:

- The DSU established an employment outcome goal that was higher than the previous FFY.
- The DSU required an increased level of VRC contact with consumers in an employment ready status.
- The DSU employed an outcome-based fee schedule for job placement activities.
- The DSU focused increased time and attention on improving the interface of VR services with long-term supports for consumers in need of supported employment services.

Goal 1.1. Total employment outcomes (target: increase over previous year).

FY 2001 - 3,746
FY 2002 - 3,606
FY 2003 - 3,700

Employment outcomes were down in FY 2002 primarily due to order of selection. This resulted in serving only those individuals with the most significant disability. These individuals tend to have a lower success rate, and are in the VR system for a longer period of time. We experienced increased rehabilitated closures during 2003.

Goal 1.2. Percent achieving an employment outcome (target: 55.8%).

FY 2001 - 51.5%
FY 2002 - 50.0%
FY 2003 - 47.0%

The percent decreased in FY 2002 and in 2003 for the same reasons noted for goal 1.1.

Goal 1.3. Percent achieving an employment outcome at or above minimum wage (target: 72.6%).

FY 2001 - 97.4%
FY 2002 - 98.2%
FY 2003 - 98.5%

Goal 1.4. Percent of individuals with significant disabilities (target: 62.4%).

FY 2001 - 88.7%
FY 2002 - 92.0%
FY 2003 - 99.0%

Goal 1.5. Average hourly earnings divided by state average hourly earnings (target: 52%).

FY 2001 - 57%
FY 2002 - 58%
FY 2003 - 55%

Goal 1.6. Percent with own income as primary source of support (target: 53%)

FY 2001 - 65%
FY 2002 - 64%
FY 2003 - 56%

Priority #2: Equal Access to Services

Goal 2.1. Service rate for minorities divided by service rate for non-minorities (target: 0.80).

FY 2001 - 0.87

FY 2002 - 0.90

FY 2003 - 0.87

For information on the DSU's activities and progress with the use of Title I funds for Innovation and Expansion activities, please refer to Attachments 4.6(a)(3), 4.9(c), and 4.12(d).

The WRC advises the DSU on I & E strategies, partnerships and projects to address underserved and unserved populations. The Epilepsy Placement project was a direct result of the WRC meeting that discussed employment outcomes for people with epilepsy. Once an I & E initiative is implemented, the WRC assists the DSU in evaluating the project outcomes.

Annual Report

As required under section 101(a)(15)(E)(ii) of the Act, the Wisconsin Rehabilitation Council (WRC) and the DSU annually jointly prepare, agree to and submit to the Commissioner a report on the activities and progress of the DSU in meeting its goals and priorities.

Upon request, the report is available from either the WRC or the DSU.

The DSU uses funds to support the operation and activities the Wisconsin Rehabilitation Council, and consistent with the state plan prepared under section 705(e)(1), the State Independent Living Council.